

REMARKS

Reconsideration of the above-identified patent application as amended herein is respectfully requested. Claims 1-27 are amended herein and claims 28-44 are added. Thus, claims 1-44 are now pending in this application. Of these, only claim 1 is independent.

In the Office Action of August 28, 2003, the Examiner rejected claims 1-27, under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which Applicants regard as the invention. Applicants wish to thank the Examiner for his helpful suggestions for amending the claims. Applicants have amended claims 1-27 and added claims 28-44 to further clarify the invention and with consideration of the informalities noted in the Office Action. The claims are now believed to overcome the rejection under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph. Specifically, claims 23-26 are amended to clarify that cold rolling takes place after the method steps of claims 1-16. Accordingly, claims 23-26 are amended and claims 28-44 are added to cover all the embodiments of the presently claimed invention. In addition, claim 27 is amended to be dependent from claim 26. Thus, the annealing step recited in claim 27 follows the cold rolling step of claim 26.

Applicants gratefully acknowledge the Examiner's indication that claims 1-26 contain allowable subject matter, and would be allowable if rewritten or amended to overcome the rejection under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph. Thus, in view of the foregoing, it is believed that the present application is now in condition for allowance and a favorable action on the merits is respectfully requested.

Serial No.: 10/030,259

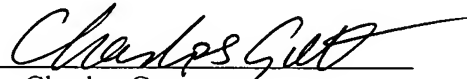
Attorney Docket No.: 20496-313

The Commissioner is authorized to deduct any fees resulting from this Amendment from deposit account number 16-2500 of the undersigned.

The undersigned attorney requests that the Examiner contact him at the telephone number indicated below if it would help expedite prosecution of this application.

Respectfully submitted,

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Enclosure: Petition for a three month extension of time